CLAIMS

1. An aromatic compound expressed by the following general formula (I):

$$A - (X - Y)_n \qquad (I)$$

10

15

wherein A represents a fused polyaromatic hydrocarbon moiety, X represents a hydrogen-bonding site, Y represents a chain functional group having 3 to 18 carbon atoms, and n represents an integer ranging from 2 to 10.

- 2. The aromatic compound according to claim 1, wherein said fused polyaromatic hydrocarbon is selected from among triphenylene, acenes, phenanthrene, perylene, fluorene, pyrene, coronene and hexabenzocoronene, said hydrogen-bonding site is selected from among atomic groups containing an amide linkage, an urea linkage, a thiourea linkage or an urethane linkage and said chain functional group is selected from among an alkyl group, a fluoroalkyl group and a polyethylene glycol group.
- 3. The aromatic compound according to claim 1, wherein said chain 20 functional group has 10 to 18 carbon atoms.
 - 4. The aromatic compound according to claim 1, wherein said fused aromatic hydrocarbon is triphenylene.
- 5. The aromatic compound according to claim 4, wherein said formula (I) is expressed by the following formula (II):

wherein R represents an alkyl group having 3 to 18 carbon atoms.

5 6. The aromatic compound according to claim 5, wherein said R is an alkyl group having 10 to 18 carbon atoms.